

PARISH CLERGY:

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Craig Davies

PARISH DEACON
Rev. Peter Crosby

PARISH REPS:

SAFEGUARDING:
Mr Gerry Wintrip
sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

HEALTH & SAFETY:
Mr Phil Probert
hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

39 Whetstone Lane
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0JD
Tel:01922 452316

Parish Website:

www.catholicaldridge.co.uk

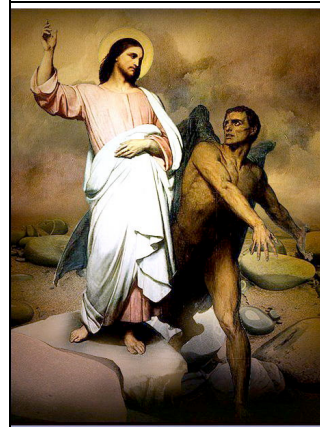
Parish Email:

smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

Fr. Craig's Email:

fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk

This Parish is part
of the
Archdiocese of
Birmingham.
**Registered
Charity
N^o:234216**



DATE

**Sunday 18th February
2024**

SUNDAY

**First Sunday of Lent
Year B**

DIVINE OFFICE

Week 1

Live-stream: All of our services are now Live-streamed.

<u>Saturday 17th Feb</u> 1 st Mass of Sunday	6:00pm	Int. of Carmel Fekete ^(CF)
<u>Sunday 18th February</u> First Sunday of Lent	9:30am 5:00pm	In Thanksgiving ^(Birthday) ^(MC) <i>Stations of the Cross for Vocations</i>
<u>Monday 19th Feb</u> Lent Feria		No Services Today
<u>Tuesday 20th Feb</u> Lent Feria	7:00pm	Exploration of the Lord's Prayer 'Our place in the family of God: Jesus as our brother'
<u>Wednesday 21st Feb</u> Lent Feria		No Services Today
<u>Thursday 22nd Feb</u> Chair of St. Peter ^{Apostle} ^{Feast}		No Services Today
<u>Friday 23rd Feb</u> Lent Feria	4:30pm 6:15pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Lectio Divina</i>
<u>Saturday 24th Feb</u> Saturday after Ash Wednesday (1 st Mass of Sunday)	6:00pm	No Morning Services Private Intention ^(MTB)
<u>Sunday 25th February</u> Second Sunday of Lent	9:30am 5:00pm	Paul Atkinson ^(RIP) ^(SVP) <i>Stations of the Cross for Vocations</i>

Pope Francis

Prayer, almsgiving, and fasting are not three unrelated exercises, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying. We cast out the idols that weigh us down and the attachments that imprison us. Then will our atrophied and isolated heart revive.

The CaFOD **CAFOD** Prayer First Sunday of Lent

Lord, may your Holy Spirit move the leaders of our country and other countries across the world to act against hunger and poverty. May He move them to act to build a better future, one based on fairness and equity.

Retiring Collection

Next weekend, **24th/25th February**, there will be a retiring collection. Please contribute again this year to **CaFOD's Family Fast Day** as you have done generously in the past. **Friday 23rd** is the day when you might use your fasting for this almsgiving. Envelopes are in the porch for those wishing to gift aid.

Rite of Election

This weekend we pray for the two candidates who are preparing for reception into the church as they enrolled into the Elect at the Cathedral this afternoon.

Craft & Natter

We are back to normal from this **Tuesday 20th February** at 11am to 3pm. Everyone is welcome, so come along and see what we are up to, lots of chat and laughs to be had, plus a little bit of crafting too! More information? Call Christine W on 07900 604902.

Welcome

This week we welcome **Fr. Justin Karakadu** and **Canon Michael Dolman** who will be celebrating the weekend Masses with us.

Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for February is:- **For the terminally ill**. We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Sick in the Parish

Pray for the sick in the parish, remembering especially:

Michael Smith, Marian Mathews, Marie Wilson, Ian Phipps, Sister Ann-Marie, Carol Facer, Oscar Wordsworth, Nichola Woodhall, Paul Corbett, Carmel Fekete, Lynn Stanley, John Green, Roy Allsopp, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Margaret Davis, Mary Brough, Joe Bannister, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, Jim Smith, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia (Dotty) Cutler, Ann & Keith Allford, Anna Morgan ^{née Meehan}, Holly Brady, Mike Mander, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.

Please remember also in your prayers those who carry the burden of their illnesses privately and those who care for them, that the Lord may grant them His healing and peace.

Lenten Alms

This Lent we will be donating our Lenten Alms to the **West Midlands Air Ambulance**. The collection box for offerings will be situated at the back of church throughout Lent.

Wednesday Friends

The next gathering of the Wednesday Friends is **Wednesday 21st February at 10am** in the Meeting Room.

Safeguarding Notice

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mr. Gerry Wintrip. Gerry can be contacted at: sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

Amendment to the Abortion Law

Please support an amendment to the Abortion law. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and yet abortion is allowed up to 24 weeks. Collect a postcard from the porch and send it to your MP supporting reduction to 22 weeks.

Items for the Newsletter

While Fr. Craig is absent from the parish, items for the Newsletter must be sent to the parish email address: (smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk), and not to Fr. Craig's own email address. These items must also have been sent before the Friday Morning of the week before you want the item to appear.

Lent 'Walk with Me'

This weekend, the Lent '**Walk with Me**' booklets will be in the porch. Please place your **£1** donations, in the pillar slot marked 'Newspapers'.

Journey in Faith

We meet on **Mondays** at **6:30pm** during Term-Time in the Parish Meeting Room. This course is open to all members of the parish who are interested in learning more about the faith, and the teachings of the Church. Coming along to these sessions not only helps us to grow in our faith, but it is also an opportunity to support those who are preparing to be received into the Church this Easter.



Children's Liturgy of the **Word**

Children's Liturgy takes place every Sunday at the 9:30am Mass. At the start of the Mass the children will be invited to go out to the Meeting Room for their Liturgy. All children are welcome to come along.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers

Our Children's Liturgy group meets each week during the Sunday Mass to share and explore the Gospel Reading through prayer, discussion, activities and fun! If you would be interested in joining this group as a leader or as a helper please speak to Will B.

The Lord's Prayer

In last weeks newsletter Fr. Craig wrote 'as part of this years preparation Pope Francis has asked us to focus on the Lord's Prayer, the perfect prayer to the Father given to us by Our Lord Himself'. Each Tuesday throughout Lent we will be exploring the depth and beauty of a different aspect of the Lord's Prayer:

20th Feb: Our place in the family of God: Jesus as our brother

27th Feb: Building God's kingdom in our hearts and homes

5th Mar: Our Daily Bread: God's providence and our part in it.

12th Mar: Forgiving: letting go, healing, restoration.

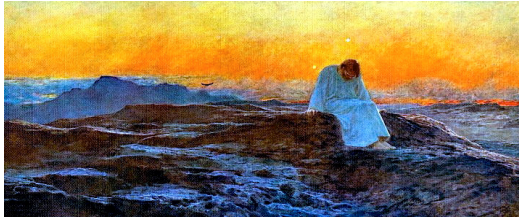
19th Mar: Temptation and evil: origins and remedies

26th Mar: Praying the prayer.

All are welcome – bring a friend! We meet in the Parish Meeting room at 7:00pm for half an hour.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform Fr. Craig **directly** in case of sickness, especially if it requires hospital treatment or a prolonged absence from Mass. If you cannot inform the clergy yourself it is then your family who should take on this responsibility.



Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to have your child Baptised here at St. Mary of the Angels, please visit the 'Baptismal Enquiry' page of the parish website using the following link: <https://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/baptismal-enquiries.html> Here you can complete a 'Baptism Enquiry Form'. The next available dates for Baptism Preparation are:

7pm Tuesday 26th March
7pm Tuesday 4th June

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 17TH/18TH February 2024

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	READERS:	Brian L & Hugh D
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	READERS:	Alice G & Martin B L

Duties During the Week: 19TH – 24TH February 2024

CLEANERS:	Team A
FLOWERS:	None required during Lent

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 24TH/25TH February 2024

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	Mavie & Krystal B
	WARDENS:	Tony M
	READERS:	Cathy S & Gerry W
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Choir
	WELCOMERS:	Rosella B & Helen H
	WARDENS:	John O'N & Elaine A
	READERS:	Will B & Catherine A
COFFEE:	Jonathan G & Tony M	

And finally:- In the words of a very famous song by Dinah Washington "What a difference a day makes, 24 little hours". On Monday 12th, at approximately 5:15pm, I walked from my room in Rowley Hall Hospital down to the operating theatre at the end of the corridor. Within seconds the Anaesthetist had inserted a cannula into my hand and time stood still until I woke in the recovery room, with a nurse by my side, at 8pm. In what seemed to me to be nothing more than the twinkling of an eye I was back in my room, lying in bed flat on my back, completely pain free - the first time in more than 6 months. By Tuesday morning the Physiotherapists had me in and out of bed, sitting down, standing up, walking up and down the corridor and the stairs; and, having completed all they'd asked of me, they informed the Sister in charge that day that I could be discharged from the hospital. Whilst I am still very sore from the procedure, and having to take things easy, which as you will know for me is not at all "easy", the transformation in how I am today, compared to how you saw me last weekend, is indescribable. At this point, as I hope to be able to tell you more about my progress in the weeks to come, I would simply like to thank each and every one of you for your continued prayers, support and encouragement, well wishes and cards.

May God bless you all, Fr. Craig